



FEED THE FUTURE INNOVATION LAB FOR COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH ON  
**Adapting Livestock Systems to Climate Change**

## Research and Impact Communiqué

August 1, 2014

This communiqué brings you research and impacts from the projects we support in Africa and SE Asia as well as insights into our investigators, resources, up and coming conferences and funding opportunities. Visit our website at [lccrsp.org](http://lccrsp.org) and/or sign up to receive the monthly communication by email.

### Activities of the Livestock Innovation Lab

The Livestock Innovation Lab  
is proud to introduce...

**9 NEW  
EAST AFRICA  
SCHOLARS**

VIDEO PHOTOS PROFILES

### We are pleased to announce the Livestock Innovation Lab's new 2014 East Africa Scholars!

Scholars presented their project proposals to Innovation Lab mentors in a two-day training in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in June. Check out their profiles [here](#).

### Research Briefs



#### [Can Bush-Clearing, Deferred Grazing, or Camels Help Mitigate Climate-Change and Population Effects for Borana Pastoralists?](#)

Overgrazing and lack of fire have resulted in proliferation of woody bush and reduced available grass forage for cattle in the Borana Plateau region of Ethiopia. Researchers from Utah State University conducted an economic analysis of potential interventions to help mitigate these problems and increase the resiliency of pastoral communities.



### [Opportunities and Challenges Associated with Expanding Nepal's Goat Market](#)

The national goat herd in Nepal is growing at a modest rate, but Nepal can't keep up with the productivity of their neighbors, especially India. Past studies indicate goat producers in Nepal suffer from a lack of timely market information and inadequate infrastructure. Find out what Utah State's researchers suggest to help with the challenges of Nepal's goat market.

## **Project Impacts**



### [New long-term project focuses on improving veterinary diagnostic services](#)

The Camel Adaptation and Medicine in the East-African Landscape project, led by investigators at Iowa State University, will collaborate with local partners, the Ethiopian National Animal Health Diagnostic and Investigation Center (NAHDIC) and the International Development and Relief Board (IDRB), to improve the diagnostic medicine capacity for camels in Ethiopia.



### [Preliminary efforts to mitigate pond siltation appear promising](#)

After only six weeks, measures implemented by a Livestock Innovation Lab project to reduce pond siltation — thus ultimately improving water quantity and quality for pastoralists — have already led to noticeable improvements in the vegetation within pond catchments.



### [Innovation Lab Scholar edits book on climate change](#)

Margaret Syomiti Muteng'e, a Livestock Innovation Lab graduate fellow and scholar is co-editor of "Vulnerability of Agriculture, Water and Fisheries to Climate Change Toward Sustainable Adaption Strategies" due out in September 2014, from Springer Publishing. The book applies a multidimensional perspective for analyzing interactions between agriculture and climate, shares best practices for adapting agriculture to climate risk and identifies the impacts of climate change on fisheries and more.

## **Capacity Building**

**In July, Livestock Innovation Lab researchers reported capacity building activities that included 116 pastoralists, livestock owners and farmers.**

### [Researchers conduct animal health workshop in Tanzania](#)

Livestock Innovation Lab researchers conducted a workshop with agriculture and livestock officials in Tungamalenga Village, Tanzania. Six livestock extension officers and 12 agricultural officers attended the 6-day workshop. Training and education focused on identification, treatment and prevention of livestock disease.





### [Project partners receive training in interview methods that utilize participatory epidemiology](#)

Eighteen participants in East Africa learned skills that will help them conduct interviews with pastoralists using the participatory epidemiology method. The information gathered in these interviews will help identify the best ways to improve the health and productivity of camel herds in East Africa.



### [Innovation Lab scholar demonstrates drip irrigation technique in Nepal](#)

More than 80 farmers have participated in demonstrations provided by Dr. Ajay Jha of Colorado State University. Demonstrations show the effectiveness of a small bucket drip system designed to provide efficient irrigation. The projects goal is not only to provide effective irrigation, but also to provide farmers with knowledge about the value of their agricultural products.

## Congratulations to the Livestock Innovation Lab's Innovator of the Month!



Paul Plummer is one of the Innovation Lab's newest researchers from Iowa University. He is the PI for the project Camel Adaptation and Medicine in the East-African Land Scape, also known as CAMELS, which is aimed at educating and training people in diagnostic screening. Read more about Paul's life and hobbies through an interview [here](#).

## Conferences and Workshops



### [The 6<sup>th</sup> All African Conference on Animal Agriculture](#)

The conference will be held in Nairobi Kenya from 27 – 30 October 2014. With the theme "Africa's Animal Agriculture: Macro-trends and future opportunities" the 6th AACAA plans to show-case the potential of Africa as production powerbase for livestock and related products with large potential and multiplier effect in regional and international trade. Livestock Innovation Lab scholars will present their research in a special session.

### [International Conference on Climate Change, Kathmandu Nepal](#)

The Livestock Innovation Lab is the conference sponsor for the upcoming International Conference on Climate Change, Innovation and Resilience for Sustainable Livelihood. Livestock Innovation Lab researcher Dr. Nir Krakauer will be acting as co-chair for the conference. The conference will take place January 12-15, 2015. Register for the conference and submit research abstracts at the conference website: [climdev15.org](http://climdev15.org)



## Funding Opportunities

### [Canadian International Development Research Center: IDRC Research Awards 2015](#)

Deadline: 6 August 2014

IDRC makes research awards to citizens and permanent residents of Canada, and to citizens of developing countries. The award provides for a one-year paid program of research in addition to hands-on experience in research management, grant administration, and the use of knowledge from an international perspective. Program areas include agriculture and food security; climate change and water; and several others. Applicants should be enrolled, or have previously completed, their masters or doctoral degrees at recognized universities.

### [African Development Bank: Africa Climate Change Fund, First Call for Proposals](#)

Deadline: 8 August, 2014

The Africa Climate Change Fund has launched its first call for proposals. The Fund aims to enhance the capacity of African countries to improve their institutional governance for access to international climate finance, and to develop policies, programs and projects for climate resilience and low-carbon growth. Eligibility for funding extends to African governments, NGOs, research organizations, and regional institutions.

### [African Women in Agricultural Research and Development \(AWARD\)](#)

Deadline: 8 August, 2014

AWARD is a program of two-year fellowships to strengthen the research and leadership skills of African women in agricultural sciences. The program is intended for women in the agricultural disciplines and related life sciences broadly defined. Eligibility extends to women agricultural scientists who are citizens of Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Mozambique, Nigeria, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia.

### [Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation: Impact Studies on the Link from Agriculture to Nutrition](#)

Deadline: 8 August, 2014

In partnership with the UK's Department for International Development (DFID), the Gates Foundation seeks innovative large-scale studies in agriculture to improve outcomes in nutrition and health. Preference is for studies that will take place in one or more of the 34 countries suffering from the highest burden of stunting in childhood, with a particular interest in South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa.

### [West African Science Service Center on Climate Change and Adapted Land Use \(WASCAL\): Masters Research Program in Climate Change and Energy 2014/2015](#)

Deadline 15 August, 2014

Abdou Moumouni University of Niamey is launching its two-year masters program on climate change and energy for the academic year 2014-2015. The program provides full scholarship to successful candidates from WASCAL member countries: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, and Togo. The program in English will admit a maximum of 10 students.

### [U.S. Agency for International Development: PREPARED in East Africa](#)

Deadline: 20 August, 2014

PREPARED is a five-year initiative targeting climate change adaptation, biodiversity conservation and water supply, and sanitation and hygiene in East Africa. The project manages a grants program in support of these themes. Projects should employ a transboundary approach or focus on a regional issue affecting the East African Community or the Lake Victoria Basin. Most grants will range between US\$100 thousand to US\$150 thousand

for projects of 6-12 months. Applications are invited from legally registered organizations in Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Uganda.

**[U.S. Department of Agriculture \(USDA\): collecting Samples of African Swine Fever, Classic Swine Fever, and Foot and Mouth Disease](#)**

Deadline: 1 September, 2014

The USDA offers grants to U.S. universities and colleges of veterinary medicine, in collaboration with international institutions and organizations, to collect and submit positive samples of the mentioned animal diseases from affected countries.